



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Appl. No.:

10/774,371

Confirmation No. 9525

Appln. Allowed: September 22, 2006

Applicant:

Y. TAKAHASHI et al.

Filed:

February 10, 2004

Title:

MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD AND MAGNETIC RECORDING SYSTEM USING SUCH A MAGNETIC

**RECORDING MEDIUM** 

TC/AU:

1762

Examiner:

A.L. Bashore

Customer No.:

24956

## REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILED FEBRUARY 10, 2004

MAIL STOP: ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Applicants appreciate the allowance of their application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the non-patent references filed on the PTO-1449 forms submitted with the IDS and new continuation application filed on February 10, 2004 (copies of PTO-1449 Forms are attached), for the following reasons.

Applicants refer to MPEP 609.02 - Information Disclosure Statements in Continued Examinations or Continuing Applications. The MPEP states that The

Examiner will consider information which has been considered by the Office in a parent application when examining a continuation application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b).

Further, according to MPEP 609.04(a) II, there are exceptions to the requirement that a copy of the information must be provided. First, 37 CFR 1.98(d) states that a copy of any patent, publication, pending U.S. application, or other information listed in an information disclosure statement is not required to be provided if: (A) the information was previously cited by or submitted to, the Office in a prior application, provided that the prior application is properly identified in the IDS and is relied on for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120; and (B) the IDS submitted in the earlier application complies with 37 CFR 1.98(a)-(c). If both of these conditions are met, the examiner will consider the information previously cited or submitted to the Office and considered by the Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. 120.

Still further, according to MPEP 609.04(a) III, if information cited or submitted in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. 120 was not in English, a concise explanation of the relevance of the information to the new application is not required unless the relevance of the information differs from its relevance as explained in the prior application.

The non-patent reference documents were previously submitted during the prosecution of the parent application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/078,399, now U.S. Patent No. 6,709,768, filed on February 21, 2002. However, the documents do not show on the PAIR system, and therefore Applicants hereby resubmit the non-patent references.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the non-patent references, initial and return a copy of the attached PTO-1449 Forms filed on February 10, 2004 that are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Mattingly

Registration No. 30,293
Attorney for Applicants

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

1800 Diagonal Rd. Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120

Date: December 7, 2006

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